

- **MINUTES**
- **TOWN OF BELMONT**
- **BOARD OF SELECTMEN**
- **SMALL COMMUNITY ROOM – CHENERY SCHOOL**
  - **Tuesday, May 25, 2010**
  - **6:30 PM**
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- **CALL TO ORDER**

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- A special meeting of the Board was called to order at 6:30 pm by Chair Jones in the Small Community Room at the Chenery Middle School. Selectmen Firenze was present. Town Administrator Tom Younger and Assistant Town Administrator Jeff Conti were also present.

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- **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT**

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- Mr. Younger reported that the Regional E-911 Metro group, of which Belmont is a member, is in the process of surveying the public safety departments of the member communities to better understand their needs and what practical issues would be involved in regionalizing dispatching services.

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- He also noted that the radiators in the Selectmen’s Meeting Room have been repainted. They are still the same brown color to match the walls as approved by the Historic District Commission.

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- **Minuteman Feasibility Study**

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- Minuteman Superintendent Ed Boquillon appeared before the Board to distribute a motion for a new Minuteman School Committee vote on the feasibility study, which will be held this evening. He explained that the new vote takes into account the conditions imposed by Arlington’s Town Meeting, under which in exchange for borrowing authority Minuteman commits not to expend any funds beyond the enrollment study unless the results of that study and of the membership study are accepted by all member towns.

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- It was noted that because reconsideration of Article 15 has already failed, the Annual Town Meeting cannot revisit this issue. Belmont can approve the new proposal by doing nothing, or disapprove it by calling a Special Town Meeting to do so.

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- Boquillon asked for a verbal indication as to whether the Minuteman School Committee should go ahead and vote the new motion. The Selectmen indicated their preliminary inclination in favor of this approach.

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- **TOWN MEETING ITEMS**

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- Town Counsel John Giorgio updated the Board on the Moderator's intention to allow budget amendments to be made from the floor provided they are in writing and easy to understand.
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- Selectman Mark Paolillo joined the meeting. The Minuteman discussion was recapped and he indicated his agreement.
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- **Planning Board Statement.** The Board discussed a statement that Jenny Fallon plans to make on behalf of the Planning Board at the beginning of Town Meeting regarding Article 27 and the Comprehensive Plan. Ms. Fallon had asked whether the Selectmen wanted to join with the Planning Board in the statement. The Selectmen declined to do so.
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- **Amendment to Article 5.** The Board discussed an amendment filed by Bob Reardon to increase the Town Clerk's salary from the \$60,000 figure proposed by the Warrant Committee, by taking approximately \$16,000 from free cash. The Board agreed it will not support any transfers from free cash for operating expenses in this budget. Chair Jones suggested that in the future, the Town Clerk's and Treasurer's salaries should be determined by the pay and class system used by Human Resources for all other positions, and that the Selectmen should take back from the Warrant Committee the responsibility of determining these salaries.
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- Mr. Younger noted that if certain other positions are ultimately filled at lower figures than budgeted, it might be possible at a fall Town meeting to transfer funds from those line items to increase the Town Clerk's salary. Such a transfer would require a two-thirds vote of Town Meeting.
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- The Board moved: To recommend unfavorable action on Mr. Reardon's amendment to Article 5.
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- Motion carried unanimously (3-0).
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- **Executive Session.** The Board moved: To enter into executive session to discuss the value of real property, and subsequently to return to open session.
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- Motion carried unanimously (3-0). The Board entered executive session at 7:03 PM.
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- *(During executive session, no substantive motions were made.)*
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- The Board returned to open session at 7:14 PM. At 7:15 PM the Board recessed until the beginning of Town Meeting.
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- **TOWN MEETING**

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- The Board returned to session for Town Meeting at 7:40 PM and recessed at 10:32 PM until the resumption of Town Meeting on Wednesday, May 26.
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- The Board returned to session for Town Meeting at 7:40 PM and adjourned at 9:30 PM.
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